

prescribed for one of the four certification levels. However, if it is essential to appoint a contracting officer who does not fully meet the certification qualifications, an interim appointment may be granted by the PORA. The PORA shall require as a condition of the interim appointment that all training or experience requirements be met within a six month time period. Usually, interim appointments shall not exceed six months. Failure to successfully complete the necessary training requirements or gain the experience within this time frame will result in termination of the appointment, unless the PORA determines that unusual circumstances prevented the attainment of either. In this instance, one additional six month interim appointment may be issued, but no more shall be allowed. The PORA shall fully document all interim appointment actions.

(e) The original SF 1402 shall be provided to the contracting officer, and a copy shall be retained by the PORA. Another copy of the SF 1402 along with the SF 171 material shall be forwarded to the servicing personnel office for inclusion in the individual's personnel file folder. Files on individuals should not be established by the PORA.

301.603-4 Termination.

Termination of contracting officer appointments shall be executed by the PORA in accordance with FAR 1.603-4.

301.603-70 Delegation of contracting officer responsibilities.

(a) Non-GS/GM-1101 or 1102 or GS-1105 or 1106 personnel shall only be delegated contracting officer responsibilities when determined necessary by a warranted contracting officer (holder of a valid SF 1402), and in accordance with this subsection. Personnel, such as a contracting officer's representative or an ordering officer, shall be delegated only the needed responsibilities by the warranted contracting officer in a written memorandum of delegation which clearly states any limitations on the delegation. Personnel who are not in the GS/GM-1101 or 1102 or GS-1105 or 1106 job series shall not be issued a SF 1402, Certificate of Appointment.

(b) Non-acquisition personnel who are delegated acquisition responsibil-

ities shall be required to have the training, experience, and education requirements necessary for the responsibilities assigned. If, for example, responsibility is to be delegated for making small purchases, the training, education, and experience for Level I—Purchasing Agent, or its equivalent as determined by the PORA, shall be required.

301.670 Head of the contracting activity.

301.670-1 Responsibility.

The head of the contracting activity (HCA) is responsible for conducting an effective and efficient acquisition program. Adequate controls shall be established to assure compliance with applicable laws, regulations, procedures, and the dictates of good management practices. Periodic reviews shall be conducted by qualified personnel, preferably assigned to positions other than in the contracting office being reviewed, to determine the extent of adherence to prescribed policies and regulations, and to detect a need for guidance and/or training.

301.670-2 Designation.

Each OPDIV head and PHS agency head has been designated as HCA along with the following officials:

- (a) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Acquisition; and
- (b) Each Regional Director.

[53 FR 15562, May 2, 1988, as amended at 54 FR 24342, June 7, 1989]

301.670-3 Redelegation.

(a) The heads of contracting activities may redelegate their HCA authorities to the extent that redelegation is not prohibited by the terms of their respective delegations of authority, by law, by the Federal Acquisition Regulation, by the HHS Acquisition Regulation, or by other regulations. However, HCA and other contracting approvals and authorities shall not be redelegated below the levels specified in the HHS Acquisition Regulation or, in the